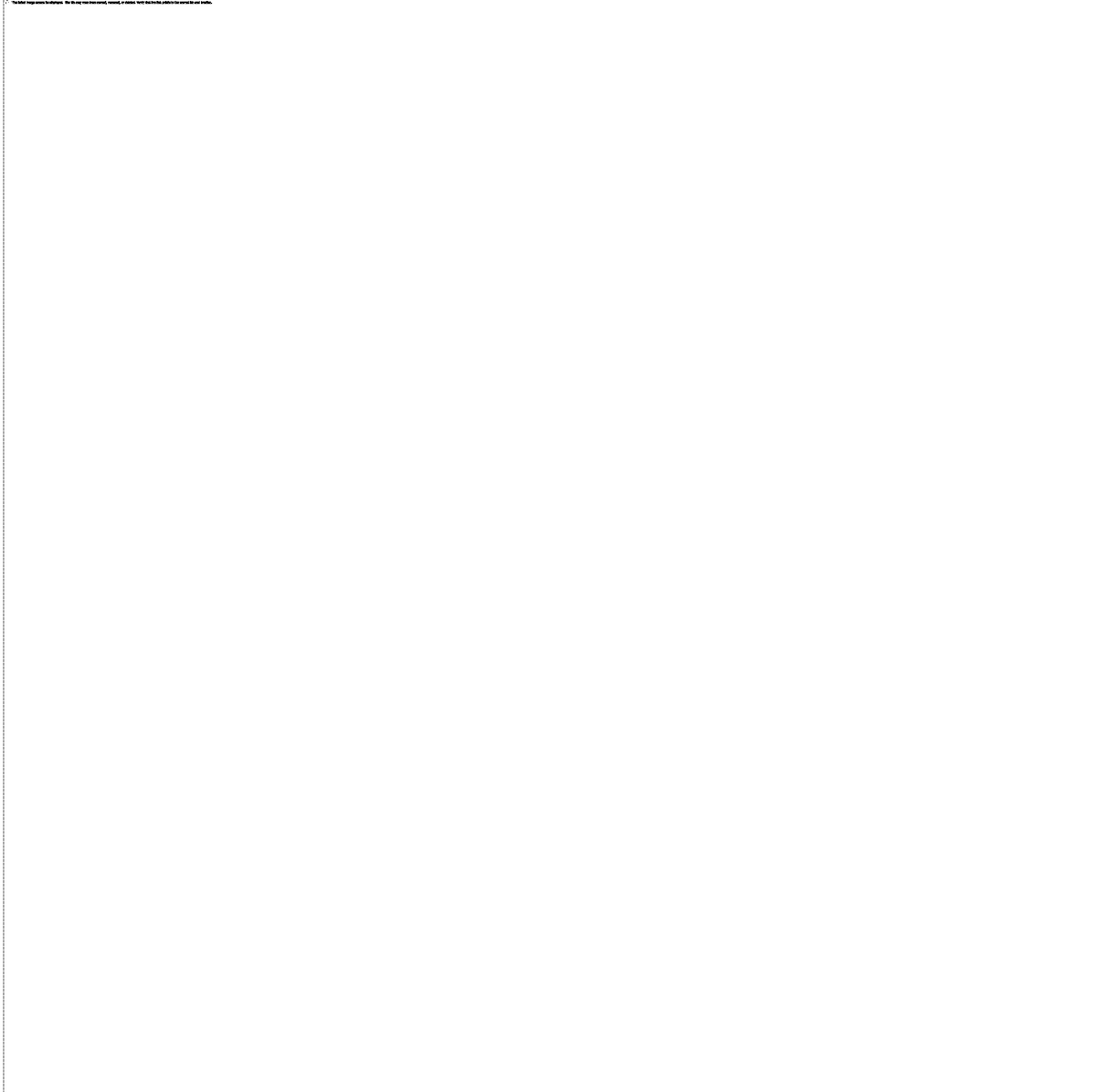


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**CASAC Attacks On EPA's PM Science Analysis Jeopardize NAAQS Review**

EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) is condemning the agency's approach to assessing health risks of particulate matter (PM) and is seeking a new draft of a health study underpinning the ongoing

review of the PM ambient air limit, a time-consuming step that jeopardizes EPA's plan to accelerate its review of the limit.

### **EPA Announces ORD Reorganization, Merging With Science Advisor Office**

EPA has announced plans to overhaul its Office of Research & Development (ORD) that includes merging the independent Office of the Science Advisor (OSA) with ORD's policy office, a move some observers have previously warned could hinder OSA's independence but that others say addresses ongoing agency resource limits.

### **GAO Keeps EPA Toxics Analyses On High-Risk List, Seeks 'Sufficient' Funds**

Rejecting arguments from EPA, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) is continuing to list the agency's premiere chemical assessment programs as a "high risk" issue in need of senior management oversight and is urging Congress and the administration to ensure the agency has "sufficient" funds to ensure their successful implementation.

### **EPA Reviewing PV29 Studies' CBI Status After 'Mistake,' Dunn Says**

EPA staff are reviewing the confidential business information (CBI) claims around a set of studies on the first draft risk evaluation the agency has released under the reformed Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), after a "mistake" was made that may have limited access to too much data, a top official says, an effort that could address critics' concerns that the agency granted too much deference to industry.



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